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SENATE MEMORIAL 7

**48TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2007**

INTRODUCED BY

Steve Komadina

A MEMORIAL

REQUESTING NEW MEXICO SCHOOL DISTRICTS TO WORK WITH THE CHILDREN, YOUTH AND FAMILIES DEPARTMENT AND THE PUBLIC EDUCATION DEPARTMENT TO EXPLORE OFFERING OR EXPANDING SUMMER FOOD SERVICE PROGRAMS FOR ELIGIBLE STUDENTS.

WHEREAS, New Mexico is ranked first in the nation in food insecurity and third in hunger; and

WHEREAS, children in low-income communities are eligible to receive free or reduced-price meals during the school year through the national school lunch and school breakfast programs and those programs end when vacation begins; and

WHEREAS, the United States department of agriculture's summer food service program helps children eighteen years old and younger to continue to get the nutrition they need to learn, play and grow throughout the summer months when they are

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1 out of school; and

2 WHEREAS, the organizations that can be approved to serve  
3 summer meals are school food authorities, governmental  
4 entities, private nonprofit organizations, residential camps  
5 and national youth sports programs; and

6 WHEREAS, meals can be served in apartment complexes, boys'  
7 and girls' clubs, churches, community centers, migrant centers,  
8 parks, playgrounds and school cafeterias; and

9 WHEREAS, the United States department of agriculture-  
10 funded summer food service program can be administered at a  
11 lower reimbursement rate in school districts as a seamless  
12 summer program through the public education department or  
13 administered by school food authorities, governmental entities,  
14 private nonprofit organizations, residential camps and national  
15 youth sports programs as a traditional summer food service  
16 program at a higher reimbursement rate through the children,  
17 youth and families department; and

18 WHEREAS, less than fifty New Mexico school districts  
19 administer a summer food service program; and

20 WHEREAS, only forty percent of children eligible for free  
21 and reduced-price meals during the school year also receive  
22 summer meals;

23 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE  
24 OF NEW MEXICO that the children, youth and families department  
25 and the public education department, in conjunction with the

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1 New Mexico task force to end hunger, be requested to prepare a  
2 survey on the feasibility of a summer food service program in  
3 each eligible school district; and

4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that each eligible school district  
5 be requested to complete a feasibility study and present it to  
6 the children, youth and families department, the public  
7 education department and the New Mexico task force to end  
8 hunger no later than September 1, 2007; and

9 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the governor request each  
10 school district to prepare a feasibility study on summer food  
11 service programs for students in New Mexico; and

12 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the children, youth and  
13 families department and the public education department present  
14 a report on the study to the governor and to the appropriate  
15 interim legislative committee no later than October 30, 2007;  
16 and

17 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be  
18 transmitted to the governor, the secretary of public education,  
19 the secretary of children, youth and families and the New  
20 Mexico task force to end hunger.